2nd November 1933]

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"May I know whether the hon. the Chief Minister is aware of the fact that information placed in the Council Library is practically nil? In view of the fact that the number of endowments exceeds thousands, will he be pleased to call for the information?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"All the information available with Government has been placed on the table. I am afraid it is not possible to collect more information or place the matter on a satisfactory basis without legislation."

S. M. K. Beyabani Sahib Bahadur:—"May I ask whether he is aware of the fact that, on a previous occasion in reply to a similar question, the Government stated that they were considering the question of preparing such a statement?"

The hon. the Raja of Bobbili:—"We have considered the matter and we have collected what information was available with the Collectors."

Provincial Finance

Capital borrowed for the Mettur Scheme and measures for its repayment.

*284 Q.—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have borrowed money for the Mettur Scheme from the Government of India; if so, how much and at what rate of interest; and

(b) whether they have taken any steps to repay such debts by borrowing at the lower prevailing rate of interest?

A.—(a) Yes, as below:—

Year.	Rate of interest.	Amount of loan taken.
(1)	(2)	(3)
	PER CENT.	LAKHS.
		RS.
1925–26	5·50	4·71
1926–27	5·00	100·00
1927–28	5·00	87·39
1928–29	5·00	77·85
1929–30	5·50	96·00
1930–31	6·25	100·00
1931–32	6·25	47·00
1932–33	5·50	100·38
		613·33

(b) Under the rules governing the Provincial Loans Fund of the Government of India, from which loans are advanced to Provincial Governments, the rate of interest originally fixed on loans advanced in a particular year is not altered except in special circumstances, such as the favourable conversion of the Government of India's borrowings of that year in a subsequent year. In view of the loans floated by

[2nd November 1933

the Government of India in February 1933 for the conversion of their borrowings of 1930–31, this Government have already addressed the Government of India requesting a reduction of the rate of interest on the loan of Rs. 100 lakhs for the Cauvery-Mettur Project taken from the Provincial Loans Fund in that year. Their decision is awaited.

Expenditure under salaries in 1926 *and since.*

* 285 *Q.*—Mr. A. Pl. N. V. Nadimuthu Pillai: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state what the present expenditure by way of salaries is, and what it was in 1926?

A.—The estimated expenditure on salaries in 1933–34 is 714 lakhs after deducting the amount saved by the abatement of pay. In 1926–27 the expenditure was 675 lakhs.

Irrigation

Estimates for improvements to the drainage facilities of Nadagudi, Tanjore district.

* 286 *Q.*—Mr. G. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether an estimate for Rs. 17,500 was submitted to the Chief Engineer for Irrigation last year for improving the drainage facilities of Nadagudi, Nannilam taluk;

(*b*) whether another estimate for the same purpose was subsequently submitted as required by the Chief Engineer;

(*c*) what arrangement has been proposed in the latter estimate for diverting the drift of sand that would accumulate higher up the proposed dam across the river Valappar and for preventing the deepened portion of the river bed from being filled up;

(*d*) what the proposed F.S.L. of river Valappar is in front of Nadagudi drainage sluice according to the remodelling scheme; and

(*e*) whether the Government will be pleased to see that the remedies recommended to rectify the defects of the drainage in question do not become impracticable as those suggested to them in 1907?

A.—(*a*) In November 1932, certain proposals with plans and an estimate were submitted to the Chief Engineer who returned them for revision with reference to an alternative design. The amount of the estimate is not known.

(*b*) *to* (*d*) The Government have not the information.

(*e*) The Government will consider the question when the proposals are received by them.